

**From:** [R6HarveySITL](#)  
**To:** [Hurricane Harvey Principals](#)  
**Cc:** [Eoc, Epahq](#)  
**Subject:** M6H1 Harvey Response: 0700 9-16-2017 Update -- Corrected  
**Date:** Saturday, September 16, 2017 8:07:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [09-16-2017 0700 Update.pdf](#)

---

Today's update is being resent due to a hyperlink error (Executive Summary bullet #4).



Hurricane Harvey 2017  
9/16/2017 – 0700 CDT Update

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- EPA received a report last night at approximately 9:30 p.m. of a fire at the Enterprise Products facility in Mont Belvieu, Texas. The facility was monitored earlier in the day by the TAGA mobile laboratory. EPA contacted the facility and was informed the fire was Butane, associated with a degasser unit. The fire was out by approximately 11:00 pm.
- Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams will observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. The state estimates debris to total 200 million cubic yards. Observations began in Houston on September 14, 2017; observations will begin in Corpus Christi on September 18, 2017. A federal Debris Management Taskforce has been established at the Joint Field Office (JFO) in Austin and EPA is a member of the Taskforce.
- Drinking water and wastewater assessment teams completed their emergency assessments of community water systems and demobilized on September 15, 2017. A total of 625 drinking water and 441 wastewater assessments were performed. Of the 2,022 systems designated for follow up, EPA's collaborative work with the state has ensured the return of 1,945 community water systems to fully operational status. These systems cover 99% of the population in the greater Houston area (7.23 out of 7.26 million served). The remaining system restorations and lifting of boil water notices oversight will be transitioned to the TCEQ regional offices.
- EPA completed sampling of all 34 Texas Superfund sites potentially impacted by the storm. September 15, 2017. EPA completed 14 of 34 site summaries with sampling evidence and has released fourteen post-hurricane Superfund site summaries based on preliminary data on the [www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-harvey) website.
- EPA's dive team collected samples at the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund site on September 15, 2017, to ensure the temporary cap of the site did not release contaminants. The responsible party continues to repair the armored layer of the cap.
- TAGA conducted air monitoring assessments in areas near six (6) industrial facilities in Baytown, Mont Belvieu, Channelview, and Pasadena, on September 15, 2017. TAGA will not be monitoring today due to a mandated day of rest for the crew.

- All three branches of Unified Command are recovering and staging orphan containers for proper disposal. The Corpus Christi Branch is transitioning the remaining open sites to the appropriate TCEQ Regional Office for closeout. Containers on the staging pad will be transferred to Houston (Bravo) Branch by September 18, 2017, before being shipped for disposal. The Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch is projected to complete recovery activities within 10 days and the Houston Branch within 20 days.
- Community Liaison teams continue to provide information regarding returning to flooded areas and handling of house-hold waste in Wharton, Harris, Jasper, Newton, Montgomery, Fort Bend, Liberty, Brazoria, Galveston, Beaumont, Port Arthur, and Baytown. The teams are listening to concerns from the community, associated with the recovery effort, and transferring this information back to the JFO to the appropriate ESF contacts.
- The TCEQ is requesting FEMA to increase EPA's ESF-10 Mission Assignment by \$8.3 million in stages (updated from 9/15/17). Once fully approved, this will bring the total funding for assessment and response to \$18.3 million.
- EPA provided a No Action Assurance (NAA) for the import of 255 power generators by the Yamaha Motor Corporation, U.S.A. (Yamaha), to be donated for use in communities impacted by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma in Texas and Florida, to assist in recovery efforts. These power generation units do not bear the emission control information labels required by the Clean Air Act.
- EPA extended three No Action Assurance letters that are effective immediately and at the request of the State of Texas. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions against tanker trucks for certain provisions of the Clean Air Act and parallel Texas regulations that relate to tank tightness and registration for tanker trucks. EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act for emissions of certain air pollutants from gasoline storage tanks during events known as "roof landings." EPA will not pursue enforcement actions that relate to violations of provisions of the Clean Air Act that require the operation of these devices at bulk fuel terminals.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

EPA issued a news release highlighting Administrator Scott Pruitt's visit to Houston, Texas on September 15, 2017, to review the Agency's response efforts in areas affected by Hurricane Harvey. Administrator Pruitt toured the San Jacinto Waste Pits Superfund Site and met with state and federal officials. Administrator Pruitt also participated in an aerial tour of additional Superfund Sites including Patrick Bayou, U.S. Oil Recovery, Highlands Acid Pits, French Unlimited, Brio Refining, and Dixie Oil Processors.

## **DEBRIS RECOVERY**

Joint EPA and TCEQ field observation teams continue to observe debris staging and landfill operations within the hurricane impacted counties in Texas to ensure best practices and program requirements are being met. The state estimates debris to total 20 million cubic yards. Observations were completed at 29 sites in the Houston area on September 14 and additional sites were observed on September 15; observations will begin in Corpus Christi on September 18, 2017. EPA is a

member of the Debris Management Taskforce at the JFO in Austin.

## VECTOR CONTROL

DOD conducted spray operations in Harris and Brazoria counties last night. Texas contractors sprayed Hardin, Aransas, Nueces, Refugio, San Patricio, Calhoun, and Jackson counties last night, completing operations in Calhoun. State contractors are scheduled to conduct aerial spray operations in Polk county during this evening, September 16, 2017.

The Texas Department of Agriculture reported that they would follow up on any specific reports or complaints of insecticide/pesticide misuse on livestock. To date, they have not received any reports or complaints. They do not plan to issue any notices or bulletins on the subject.

## AIR MONITORING

On September 15, 2017, the TAGA conducted monitoring near Exxon Mobil Baytown Refinery, Exxon Mobil Baytown Chemical Plant, Exxon Mobil Baytown Olefins Plant, and the adjacent communities to the west, north, and southeast. The TAGA also monitored areas near the Enterprise - Mont Belvieu Complex, Equistar Chemicals - Channelview, and Phillips 66 Pipeline - Pasadena Product Terminal. No readings above the TCEQ Air Monitoring Comparison Values short-term screening levels were detected.

No monitoring will be conducted by the TAGA on September 16, 2017. Monitoring will resume on Sunday, September 17, 2017, near Texas City, Texas.

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Hazard Evaluations/Recovery				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/15/2017	Number of Targets Remaining Open	9/15/2017	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	1	7	2	99
Houston Branch	1	44	57	325
Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	1	34	24	90
NRC Reports	1	2	0	3
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>517</b>
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered. Closed means the target was recovered/left in place or access was denied to collect the item.				

Daily/Cumulative Summary of Spills/Discharges (NON-VESSELS)				
Status	Opened		Closed	
	9/15/17	Number of Facilities/Spills Remaining Open	9/15/17	Cumulative
Corpus Christi Branch	1	1	0	33
Houston Branch	0	4	1	74

Port Arthur/Beaumont Branch	2	9	4	17
NRC Reports	2	19	3	103
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>227</b>
Note: Open means the target is yet to be recovered/cleaned up. Closed means the target was recovered/cleaned up by a Responsible Party or not found upon return to location.				

## FIELD RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

FIELD TEAMS ON 9/15/2017				
<b>Teams</b>	<b>Alpha</b>	<b>Bravo</b>	<b>Charlie</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Hazard Evaluation</b>	1	1	4	6
<b>Oil Discharge Assessment</b>	4	3	0	7
<b>ER/Orphan Container Recovery</b>	1	15	4	20
<b>Oil/Vessel Recovery</b>	2	1	0	3
<b>Staging Areas</b>	1	1	1	3
<b>Air Operations</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>Air Monitoring</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>Water Infrastructure Assessment – Drinking Water</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>Water Infrastructure Assessment – Wastewater</b>	0	1	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	9	25	9	43

Waste Received at All Staging Pads to Date					
	CONTAINERS			Cylinders	TOTAL
	Drums [55 gals]	Small Containers [<55 gals]	Large Containers [>55 gals]		
<b>9/15/2017</b>	45	21	2	6	74
<b>TOTAL TO DATE</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>591</b>

### CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH:

One Oil/Vessel Discharge Team observed salvage operations of the Signet Enterprise at Aransas Pass, assessed targets in Sea Drift and Victoria Barge Canal, and assessed additional pollution reports. A second team responded to and investigated National Response Center (NRC) and ChemTel reports of active pollution discharges and assured actions were being taken to recover the pollution.

### HOUSTON BRANCH:

The Oil Discharge Assessment Team investigated a reported spill in Montgomery based on an NRC report and continued to verify and collect additional information on closed targets. The Emergency Response and Orphan Container Recovery Teams continued recovering targets in

Harris, Brazoria, and Galveston counties.

#### PORT ARTHUR/BEAUMONT BRANCH:

The Hazard Evaluation Team conducted an assessment at the Beaumont Yacht Club to confirm the removal of a pontoon boat. The Oil/Vessel Discharge Team completed assessments of targets outside Motiva Refinery, Orange, Vidor, and Beaumont. All targets were closed in Orange.

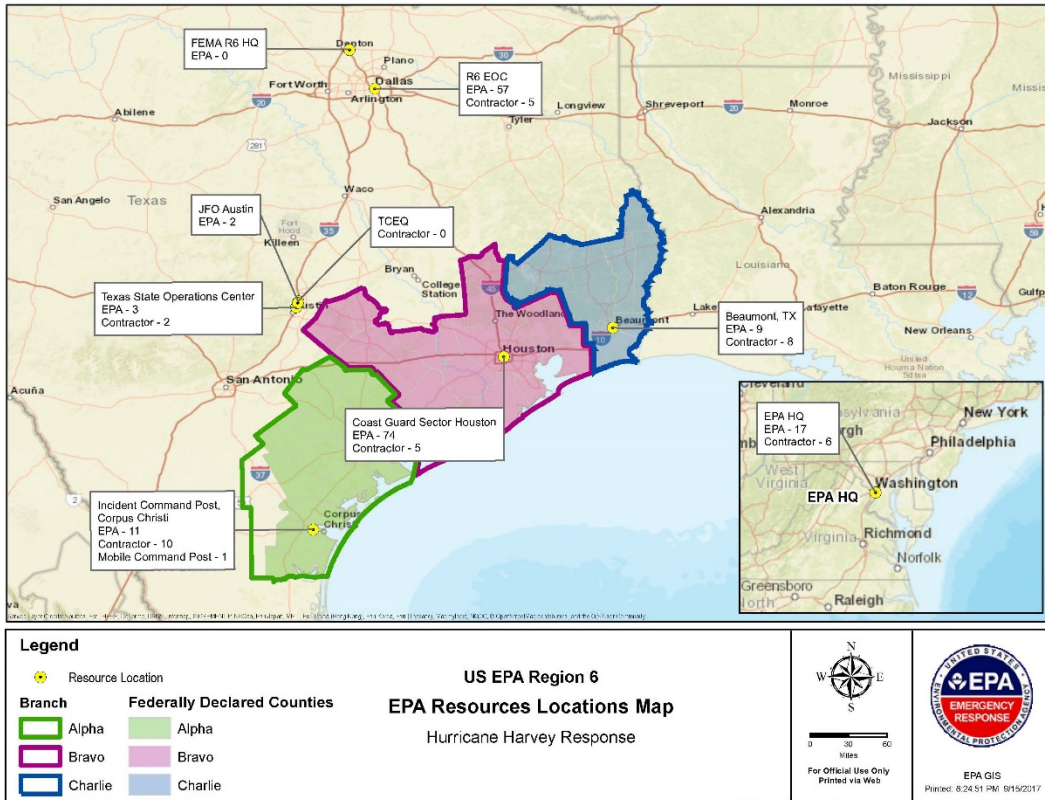
The Orphan Container Recovery Teams retrieved multiple containers from Sabine Pass and Vidor. Containers identified to be retrieved at Texas State Highway 87 in High Island will require an airboat.

#### DRINKING WATER / WASTEWATER ASSESSMENTS

As of September 14, 2017, Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessment activities have been completed. The remaining systems have been transitioned to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for completion.

#### EPA RESOURCES

Personnel	EPA Dallas, TX	FEMA Denton, TX	Texas JFO Austin, TX	Texas SOC Austin, TX	TCEQ Austin, TX	Houston, TX	Corpus Christi, TX	Beaumont, TX	HQ EOC, Wash, DC	TOTAL
EPA	57	0	2	3	0	74	12	9	17	174
START	5			2	0	5	10	8		30
ERRS						29	4	15		48
Other Contractors									6	6
TOTAL	62	0	2	5	0	108	26	32	23	258



## FUNDING

SitRep								
September 15, 2017, UPDATED 1300 hours								
Funding Sources	Funding Ceiling	Funding Ceiling Less Indirect	Obligated to Date	Estimated Spent to Date	Unobligated Dollars Remaining	Estimated Unspent Dollars Remaining	Daily Burn Rate	Days Remaining
Non Mission Assignment	N/A			\$64,200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-01	\$275,000.00	\$242,741.00	\$55,152.00	\$55,152.00	\$187,589.00	\$187,589.00	\$3,048.00	61.54
MA 4332DR-TX-EPA-03	\$10,092,000.00	\$8,908,113.00	\$7,477,847.41	\$6,475,026.76	\$1,430,265.59	\$2,433,086.24	\$318,827.33	see below
Totals:	\$10,367,000.00	\$9,150,854.00	\$7,532,999.41	\$6,594,378.76	\$1,617,854.59	\$2,556,475.24		
Days remaining based on authorized direct ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contracts EXPENDED								7.63
Days Remaining based on authorized ceiling minus total payroll, travel, and contract OBLIGATIONS								5.07
** The indirect cost pool consists of all costs classified as indirect for all appropriations that fund administrative, management and support functions.								
NOTE: This report includes estimated cumulative costs of the HQ EOC charging under MA#03 (09/13/17)								

## REFINERIES / FUEL WAIVERS

- EPA extended the multi-state fuel waiver to October 1, 2017.
- EPA has granted all open fuel waivers requested to date.
- On September 13, 2017, EPA issued a waiver of certain requirements of the Clean Air Act:
  - The Texas Low Emission Diesel (TxLED) requirements was waived in all TxLED Counties to minimize or prevent problems with the supply of TxLED. The EPA will allow regulated parties to use federally compliant 15 part per million Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) in a 110-county area of Texas. This waiver is effective immediately and will continue through October 1, 2017.
  - EPA is waiving the 7.8 psi Reid Vapor Pressure (RVP) standard that applies in Eastern Texas State Implementation Plan (SIP) RVP Counties until the end of the summer "high ozone" season on October 1, 2017. This waiver is effective immediately and will continue through October 1, 2017.
  - EPA is waiving the federal Reformulated Gasoline (RFG) requirements in Texas. Under this waiver, EPA will allow regulated parties to produce, sell or distribute conventional winter gasoline in any RFG covered area within Texas. This will also prohibit any person from combining any RFG BOB with any other gasoline, blendstock, or oxygenate, unless certain conditions are met.
- EPA has issued a No Action Assurance for the Use of Vapor Recovery Systems in Texas Related to Hurricane Harvey (September 1, 2017). EPA will exercise its discretion not to pursue enforcement for violations of the vapor recovery requirements for fuel loading and unloading under 40 CFR Part 60 Subpart XX and Part 63 Subparts, R, Y, CC, BBBB, and 30 Texas Administrative Code sections 115.212, .214.
- The Internal Revenue Service red dye fuel waiver covers the entire state of Texas

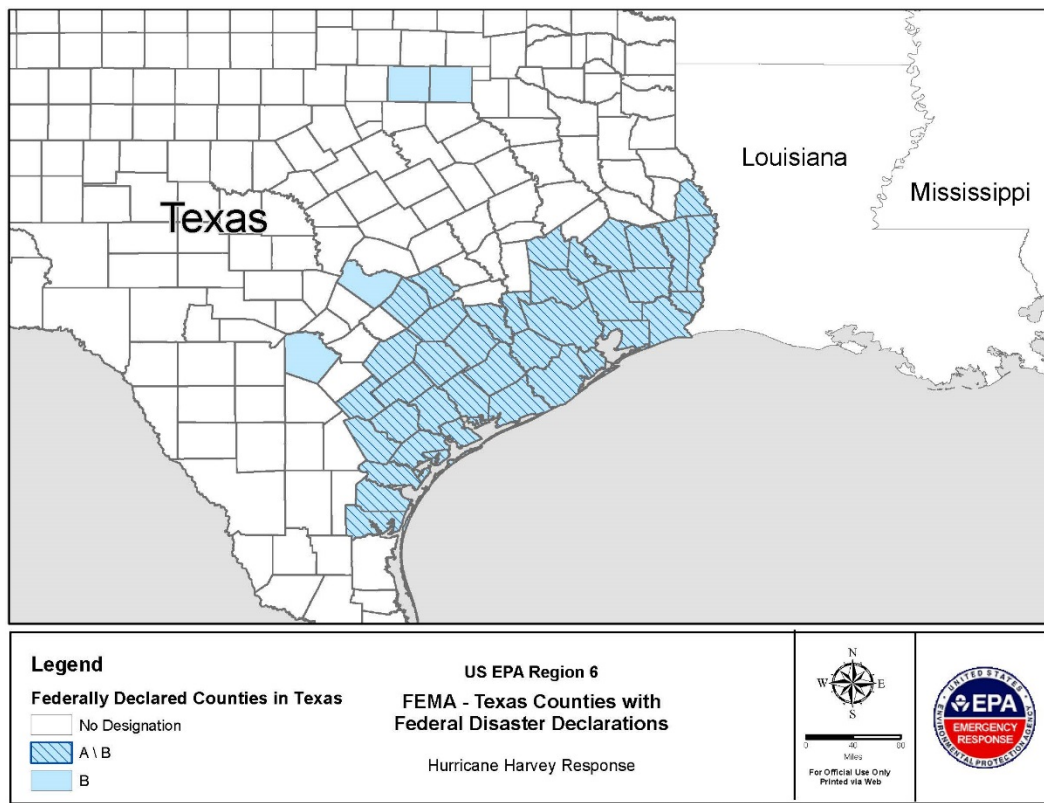


- On September 15, 2017, a No Action Assurance was issued for the import of generators by the Yamaha Motor Corporation that will be donated to communities impacted by Hurricane Harvey in Texas and Hurricane Irma in Florida. The generators are currently labeled to meet Canada's requirements for sale with respect to emission information, not the United States', thus their import would be a violation of EPA's Clean Air Act. The generators will not emit air pollution above EPA standards, therefore, EPA will exercise its discretion not to pursue violations.

**FEDERAL SUPERFUND NPL SITES - (These activities are being done concurrently but outside of the current Mission Assignment)**

- EPA either directed potentially responsible parties (PRPs), or independently, began collecting samples at 34 Texas Superfund Sites and 9 Louisiana Sites to confirm no releases due to storm impacts. Six EPA field teams, along with PRPs, have completed sampling at 43 sites. The sampling is part of a longer term assessment that will be used to transition sites back to normal cleanup operations. Preliminary un-validated results for sites located in Texas are expected by September 16, 2017 and for the sites located in Louisiana by September 18, 2017.
- All 43 Federal Superfund NPL Sites in the hurricane affected area have been assessed. Of these, 41 sites have been cleared and two sites (San Jacinto Waste Pits and U.S. Oil Recovery) are undergoing additional follow-up as follows:
  - U.S. Oil Recovery Update: Since the time the pump down operations began, after hurricane landfall, a total of 64 truckloads of storm water (approximately 320,000 gallons) have been removed from the Site. The Potentially Responsible Party Group will monitor the lift station freeboard levels over the weekend and perform additional pump-downs if needed.
  - San Jacinto Waste Pits Update: The responsible party completed all manual probing activities of the cap on September 14, 2017. On September 15, 2017, the EPA Dive Team collected underwater sediment samples for dioxin/furan analysis in areas where gaps in the cap were found. The PRPs' dive team is collecting sediment samples from the same areas for the same analysis. Results are expected within by September 21, 2017.

## FEMA – TEXAS COUNTIES WITH DISASTER DECLARATIONS



**Port Arthur/Beaumont  
Orphan Container Recovery**



**Port Arthur/Beaumont  
Hazard Evaluation**